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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP 25X1

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| <input type="checkbox"/> ACTION      | <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT REPLY         | <input type="checkbox"/> RETURN    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT     | <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARATION OF REPLY | <input type="checkbox"/> DISPATCH  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION       | <input type="checkbox"/> FILE      |

Remarks:

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FORM NO. 38-4  
1 NOV 53

Previous editions may be used.

# THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

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TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: BROADCASTS, TELEX, LONDON

Reference:  
07.MS.JTC

~~SECRET~~

9th April 1956

Dear Alan,

Many thanks for your letter of 30th March on the subject of the Voice of the Arabs broadcasts which I have now received.

The story as unfolded by Cairo radio was so puzzling that I was prompted to send you the signal enquiring whether you could throw any light on the reports, and I am most grateful for your telephone call - it was good to hear your voice again.

The facts, as I know them, are fairly straightforward so far as the actual protests are concerned. The British Ambassador protested to Premier Nasser about six specific broadcasts, four in Arabic and two in Swahili: of these, three Arabic and the two Swahili were monitored and translated by us. The fourth Arabic was, I understand, the alleged broadcast of 6th March by Gamal Sanhourri, which neither you nor ourselves monitored, and for which neither of us are prepared to vouch. At the request of our Foreign Office, we have sent tape recordings of the five broadcasts which we monitored to Cairo to support the British Ambassador's protests. So far I have not heard whether this has disposed of the matter or not. At all events, I am quite confident that those five broadcasts were in fact made, and correctly monitored and translated by us. The origin of the alleged broadcast on the 6th March is still not known by me, except that it was reported from Bahrein. It has certainly never been attributed, as far as I know, to FBIS and I have informed our people here that it certainly was not monitored by you.

From what I have said you will appreciate that FBIS monitoring has not been involved in this matter as a source of the material which was the subject of our Ambassador's protest.

There remains the Al-Akhbar's press conference at which a recording, said to have been obtained from American sources, was played back to correspondents. So far as I can ascertain, this particular recording was not of a transmission which had been the subject of protest, but I

Mr. Alan W. [redacted]eld

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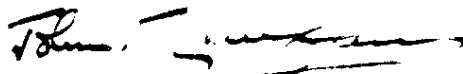
9th April 1956

was puzzled as to how it had got into the hands of the Egyptian press. This, I think, is still a mystery to both of us, but I would be most grateful if you could let me know the precise recordings which your Mediterranean Bureau supplied to your Embassy in Cairo in early March. The reason I ask this is so that we may be prepared in case the Egyptians seek to make any further capital out of recordings which they say they have obtained from American sources. It would enable us to check with our recordings here any use which they may make of them.

I hope this information which I have been able to give you, although limited, may fill in the picture a little more, and I will certainly keep you up-to-date with any further news I get, and I would be grateful if you would do likewise.

I am very glad to hear your news that you hope to augment the Arabic staff at Kyrenia by two monitors, and I for my part am able to say that I am hopeful that we will very shortly have an additional Arabic monitor here. I think there can be no doubt that for some time to come Arabic is going to be a very important language from the point of view of our joint operation, and I feel with these additional resources we shall be able to meet the demands which will inevitably be made upon us.

Yours sincerely,



J. T. Campbell  
Head of Monitoring Service

STAT

[redacted]  
Chief, FBIS,  
2430 E Street, N.W.,  
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JTC/JB

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Letter

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*The British Broadcasting Corporation*

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